

JAMES L. WILLIAMS.

[To accompany Bill H. R. No. 747.]

MAY 18, 1860.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. F. W. KELLOGG, from the Committee on Invalid Pensions, made the following

REPORT.

The Committee on Invalid Pensions, to whom was referred the petition of James L. Williams, asking for an increase of pension, report:

That they have had the same under examination, and from the evidence it appears that the petitioner was a volunteer soldier in the Mexican war in Colonel McKee's regiment of Kentucky volunteers, and while in the line and discharge of his duty in the battle of Buena Vista he received a severe gun-shot wound in his head, fracturing the skull, also a wound in the region of the spine, which wound caused him long and continued suffering, and resulted finally in a general paralysis of his body to such an extent as to render him unable to walk a step for over five years, and he is now in the same condition.

Benjamin King, assistant surgeon United States army, writes to the committee as follows: "James L. Williams, late of the Kentucky volunteers, now a petitioner for an increase of pension, has been under my care since October, 1858, with total paralysis of the lower limbs, caused by wounds received in the memorable battle of Buena Vista, under General Taylor. Williams is superior to the ordinary enlisted men, and wishes to return to his friends if he could receive a pension that would be sufficient for his support. His conduct since I have known him has been most exemplary and unexceptionable, being as correct as possible, and I should be pleased to know that he had been provided for as he deserves. He is of respectable family, but poor. He is helpless and unable to walk, and in all probability never will be able to walk again; he cannot move without being carried by others, or in a chair provided for such invalids.

"BENJAMIN KING,

"Assistant Surgeon United States Army."

The petitioner is now at the Soldiers' Home in this city, and receives a pension of \$8 per month, which is wholly inadequate to his

support under such circumstances ; his health is failing, and he desires to return to his friends to die among them.

Your committee are of the opinion that the case is one of great merit, and fully calling for special legislation on the part of Congress, and they therefore report a bill increasing his pension from \$8 to \$16 per month, said increase to commence on the 1st day of January, 1860, and recommend its passage.